

Strategies for Success

School District Energy Conservation Activities

5. Kitchen Staff

- ☐ Turn lights off when leaving the room.
- ☐ Work with fewer lights turned on when possible (i.e. keep cafeteria area off until 1st lunch group arrives).

- ☐ Run exhaust fans only when needed.
- ☐ Turn on kitchen equipment only when necessary and turn off as soon as finished.
- ☐ Use microwave oven in place of conventional ovens where possible.
- ☐ Run dishwasher only with full loads.
- ☐ Don't use tap water to thaw frozen vegetables or other food.
- ☐ Use hot water only when necessary.
- ☐ Install high pressure/low flow spray rinsers with auto shut off.
- ☐ Discontinue use of food grinders; consider composting
- ☐ Use dry cleanup before using water/spray washing. Minimize water washing.

- ☐ Report all leaking faucets and pipes as well as running toilets.
- ☐ Report damaged doors and windows to reduce the need for heating and cooling in the building.

- ☐ Keep refrigerators and freezers full. A full refrigerator and freezer operates more efficiently than an empty one. Use plastic bottles of water to take up space if necessary.
- ☐ Consolidate refrigerators and freezers to run only the minimum number needed.
- ☐ Defrost refrigerators and freezers regularly.
- ☐ Keep refrigerators at 34°F -37°F and regular use freezers at 5°F. Keep long-term storage freezers at 0°F.
- ☐ Turn off refrigerators/freezers for periods of non-use.
- ☐ Turn computers on to start each day and off each night.

- ☐ Heating and cooling systems:
 - ☐ Don't tamper with controls. Don't use "hold" or "override" setting for programmable thermostats.
 - ☐ Advise maintenance if you think a time or temperature schedule change is needed.
 - ☐ Keep the heat inside. Close blinds at night to keep in the heat. Open during the day to let sun shine through and warm the inside of the building. Do the reverse during the cooling season.

- ☐ Recycle paper, cardboard, plastic, glass, and metal where possible.

- ☐ Make suggestions to maintenance staff and administration to improve energy and operational efficiency.

We're here to get you started, and see you through!

Rebuild Colorado

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